



# Ancaster Church of England Primary School

## *Newsletter 8 – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014*



Dear Parents and Carers, welcome to Newsletter 8. What a wonderful 2 weeks we have had in school. For the first time ever, we took the whole school to Grantham Guildhall to watch the pantomime Aladdin. The children had a fantastic time and came back with many tales to tell; huge smiles and bucket loads of festive cheer. Seeing the enthusiastic response from the children, this is certainly a Christmas tradition we would like to happen every year. I was absolutely taken aback by our Christmas Fayre. At one point, I stood in the middle of the main hall taking in the sight of so many people coming together to support our school and felt incredibly proud and lucky to be the Headteacher-thank you so much for all of your continued support! As well as these events, the children have taken part in excellent productions which completely blew me away and it was brilliant to see the children relax and enjoy themselves at their Christmas parties. We finished the term with a very special candlelit worship in which the hall is transformed into a magical festive wonderland and I have the opportunity to read the classic tale, 'Twas the night before Christmas' to the whole school. Ending the term in this way is truly magical and certainly a highlight of my school Christmas celebrations. I truly hope you all have a super Christmas break and want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Best Wishes, Mr Eden.**

### **Be the Best You Can Be!**



Our certificates for achievement were awarded to the following children in our special Friday assembly-well done all;

- Class Italy**- Max Davies and All of Class Italy
- Class China**-Ally Buffham and All of Class China
- Class Brazil**-Charlie Askham
- Class Sri Lanka**-Justin Hardy-Dixon and Jessica Blankley.
- Class Lesotho**-Jasmine Pellett and all of Class Lesotho.

**Well done to all children for following the Golden Rules and continuing to be the best they can be!**

### **Team Points**

Team point totals for this term are still being counted and the winning team will be announced in the new year.

- St. Winifred-TBC**
- St. Modwenna-TBC**
- St. Hugh-TBC**
- St. Columba-TBC**

Starting from next term, the winning team will be able to choose 1 Golden Treat from a given list.

Next term they may choose from;

- A day in non-uniform
- Nails painted by Mrs Talbot on a Friday afternoon
- Tea and cakes with Mr Eden
- A junk modelling session

Children from the winning team will pick 1 session and that will be their treat for that term.

**Friendship Achievement Respect**  
**Creativity Honesty**

### **Christmas Fayre Success!**



This year, the Christmas Fayre was our best ever. Each class spent time making items to sell and members of the community came to set up craft, cake and art stalls. There was a real sense of community at the event and to see so many people in school enjoying the festivities was a fantastic sight to behold. We have been busy counting up the money taken and we can exclusively reveal that this year's total is a mammoth **£474.37**. This will be added to the School Fund which is a reserve of money spent solely on improving educational activities and resources for all children in school. By adding this healthy amount of money, we are giving our School Fund a healthy boost and we **thank you for all of your continued support!**

**A special thank you must go to Mrs Ali Stafford, and her mum, Val**, who gave up a day of their time to bake mince pies with every child in the school. The results were absolutely phenomenal and the proof was definitely in the pudding as everyone who tried them gave them the biggest thumbs up!

Also, thank you to one of our parents, **Miss Lisa Peberdy**, who was able to donate a variety of quality books to the school from her place of work. **We are incredibly appreciative-thank you!**



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### Christmas Productions



What a wonderful week of performances we had in school. Our school has been awash with the sound of singing and acting as Classes Italy and China performed their brilliant nativity, 'Prickly Hay', to packed audiences in school. Classes Brazil, Sri Lanka and Lesotho held their annual Christmas concert in church and it was a superb mix of singing and poetry.

All performances were absolutely wonderful and showcased the children's many talents. **A huge well done to the children as well as all staff for their hard work and dedication in bringing this learning to life!**

### Goodbye Reverend Alan

**It is with a very heavy heart that we bid farewell to Reverend Alan who has decided to retire on December 31<sup>st</sup>.** He has played an instrumental role as a school governor in helping the school be the best it can possibly be and we will all miss him dearly. We can only thank him for all of his time, efforts, dedication and passion for our school. In the Choral Poetry and Carol service in church, we surprised Reverend Alan with a special book of memories, created by staff and children as well as a new tree that can be planted in the garden of his new house. Good luck Reverend Alan, we all wish you well and hope you have a long and happy retirement.

### Parent Questionnaire Results

At the recent Parents Evenings, you were asked to fill out a questionnaire with your views on our school. We are delighted to inform you of the results. Our parent body is made up of a total of 90 families-During the parent meetings, we gained the responses of 70 families, which is absolutely wonderful, and helps us gain valuable information on the views and opinions of our school.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child feels safe at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.	84%	16%		
My child makes good progress at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.	61%	39%		
My child is well looked after at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.	74%	25%	1%	
My child is taught well at Ancaster Church of England Primary School.	66%	34%		
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	53%	43%	4%	
The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	69%	30%	1%	
The school deals effectively with bullying.	69%	31%		
The school is well led and managed.	76%	23%	1%	
The school responds well to concerns I raise.	70%	29%	1%	
Overall, does the school promote good behaviour?	71%	29%		
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.	65%	34%	1%	
Would you recommend Ancaster Church of England Primary School to another parent?	Yes 99%		No 1%	

We were thrilled to gain lots of incredibly positive comments about our school. The following comments were made via the feedback forms.

*'My child's progress has been incredible since coming to Ancaster. My child now loves to learn and has made lots of friends. Overall, we are extremely pleased-thank you!'*

*'Ancaster Church of England Primary School is, in my opinion, the best primary school in the area. The staff are amazing and my child just loves being there.'*



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### PTFA Movie Night



The PTFA held their very first Movie Night and it was an amazing success. The children had great fun watching their Christmas films and eating their snacks. **The evening helped raise £130** which has been used to pay for each class to have a Christmas party. **A huge thank you must go to the PTFA for their hard work and efforts in providing such super events!**

### Next Term-Diary Dates

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January**-School Closed INSET Day

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**-School re-opens for Term 3

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**-KS2 after school Dance Club begins (this will be limited to 20 children from Classes Brazil, Sri Lanka and Lesotho-more details will be released in the first week back).

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**-Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February-Bookfair-buy books and raise money for school.

### Superstar Attendance!

We have been extremely pleased with the attendance levels since September. The number of children with 100% attendance is fantastic and we are very proud to be able to report that the overall attendance figure for the school since September is currently 96.53%. We should be aiming for an overall figure of 97% and hopefully attendance can be sustained at the levels seen over the past 2 terms to achieve this. Lateness has improved significantly too; we cannot stress enough the importance of being in school on time to ensure your child enjoys a calm start to the school day and thank you for ensuring your child(ren) are here well before 9am.

**The following children have received 100% attendance since SEPTEMBER;** Emily Awcock, George Bailey, Oscar Kerry-Dutton, Skye Creasey, Lexi Davies, Max Davies, Lily Knight, Michael Lawson, Emily Maughan, Izzy McGauley, Conall Roberts, Owen Rohland, Ruby-Rose Rosling, Imogen Taylor, Leyton Walsh, Harry Askham, Alex Bailey, Ally Buffham, Jack Green, Benji Heron, Emily Herrick, Matthew Holmes, Eva Lunn, Gus Phillis, Max Vangasse, Izzy Welby, Keeley Creasey, Lucy Cullum, Phoebe Duggan, Jack Marsh, Kira Roper, Arabella Seng, Jessica Annan, Charlie Baker, Jake Barrett, Harry Demetriou, Harvey Greenhalf, Willow Hanks, Jack McDowall, Jamie Seng, Ellen Stafford, Sam Taylor, Olivia Allen, Keiran Barnes-Green, Holli Batchelor, George Fisher, Jasmine Hendry, Jessica Heron and Steven Vallance.

**These 49 children represent 38% of the whole school having 100% attendance which is absolutely fantastic. Well done to all!**

**We also celebrate the attendance of each class. The class with the highest attendance figures are awarded the Attendance Cup. Here are the figures for term 2.**

**Class Italy- 97.14%-Attendance Cup Winners!**

**Class China- 96.80%**

**Class Brazil- 96.90%**

**Class Sri Lanka- 93.20%**

**Class Lesotho-94.92%**

Your cooperation with attendance is absolutely vital. Time spent away from school is time that a child can never get back. Unless they are genuinely unwell or there is an exceptional circumstance, all children are expected in school. Where attendance falls below 90%, a letter will be sent home to parents detailing the exact attendance figure and the next steps that could possibly be taken. In more extreme circumstances, where attendance falls below 80%, we will need to notify our Education Welfare Officer.

*Once again, from all staff and governors at Ancaster Church of England Primary School-We wish you a merry Christmas and a very happy new year!*